

Application No. 10/699,693  
Amendment dated October 19, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of July 19, 2005

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph [00013] with the following amended paragraph:

[00013] Fig. 3a is a partial radial sectional view of the diffuser assembly shown in Fig. 2; and

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [00013]:

Fig. 3b is a partial radial sectional view of another embodiment of the diffuser assembly; and

Please replace paragraph [00018] with the following amended paragraph:

[00018] As will be seen hereinafter, the diffuser casing 22 can be provided in the form of a one-piece casting (Fig. 3a) or, alternatively, designed as an assembly of machined pieces and sheet metal pieces (Fig. 3b).

Please replace paragraph [00021] with the following amended paragraph:

[00021] Instead of being made from a one-piece casting, the diffuser casing 22 could be designed as an assembly in which the vaned disc 26, the arcuate wall 30, the straight outer annular wall portion 32, the inner annular wall portion 34 and the deswirl vanes 36 are separate pieces adapted to be assembled together in a diffuser casing configuration (see Fig. 3b). The vaned disc 26 could be machined in a solid block of material, whereas the arcuate annular wall 30, the annular outer wall portion 32, the annular wall portion 34 and the deswirl vanes 36 could be made from sheet metal. These various pieces could be assembled together as by welding. Such an assembly is advantageous in that it allows reducing the weight of the diffuser by using sheet metal against casting.